2005 WATER REPORT VILLAGE OF LOS LUNAS The Village of Los Lunas' 2005 Water Quality Report

Dear Village residents and consumers,

The Village of Los Lunas annual Water Quality Report is the perfect opportunity to talk about water use as well as conservation in the village.

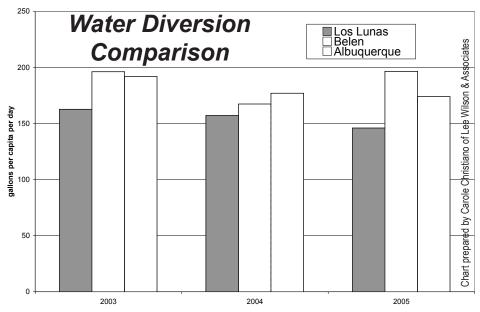
The chart at right compares water diversion between Albuquerque, Belen and Los Lunas.

Diversion measures the overall amount of water pumped from municipal wells. Diversions are expressed in total numbers or, when used in comparison with other municipalities, in gallons per capita per day.

Per capita use includes diversions for residential, commercial and industrial use, so in larger urban areas, per capita use is generally higher than it is in rural areas.

Per capita use also tends to increase in a rapidly growing community such as Los Lunas.

In the Village, per capita use has decreased over the last three years de-



spite drier than average conditions and increased urbanization. This indicates a well run water system and citizens who believe in water conservation.

Conservation continues to be important every day so that we don't waste a drop of water in our community. We must always be vigilant about

the use of water in our homes, businesses and throughout the community

Even if you think you have done your best to conserve, look again at how you use water. There may be even more ways to conserve.

Louis F. Huning Mayor, Village of Los Lunas

Este informe contiene informacion muy importante sobre la calidad de su agua para beber. Traduscalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien. Una traduccion de este folleto en espanol es obtenible en la sala de sesiones de la muncipalidad del Pueblo de Los Lunas en Don Pasqual y Main Street.

The Village Council encourages citizens of Los Lunas and interested persons to attend and participate in the community's decisions affecting drinking water. Regular council meetings occur approximately every two weeks on Thursdays at 6 PM at the Administration Building lo-

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT THE

Los Lunas Water Department Attn: Betty Behrend P.O. Box 1209 660 Main Street NW Los Lunas New Mexico 87031-1209 Phone 505 839-3843 Fax 505 352-3580 E-mail: behrendb@loslunasnm.gov

cated at the corner of Don Pasqual and Main Street.

Due to the increased severity of the drought this year in New Mexico, the Village of Los Lunas encourages everyone to continue their water conservation efforts and implement additional efforts if at all possible.

VILLAGE OF LOS LUNAS

Don Pasqual & Main Street P.O. Box 1209 Los Lunas, New Mexico 87031 505 839-3843 FAX 505 352-3580

This report was printed and distributed in June, 2006

THE WATER WE DRINK IN LOS LUNAS 2005 VILLAGE OF LOS LUNAS WATER SUMMARY WATER QUALITY DATA TABLE

The table below lists all the drinking water contaminants detected during the calendar year of this report (2005). The presence of contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, the data pre-

sented in this table is from testing done in the calendar year of the report. The EPA or the State requires monitoring for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently.

	MCLG	MCL,	Varia	RANGE		SAMPLE		
CONTAMINANTS	OR MRDLG	TT, or MRDL	Your Water	Low	HIGH	DATE	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
DISINFECTANTS & DISINFECTION BY-PRODUCTS — There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.								
Chlorine (as C12) (ppm)	4	4	0.27	0.15	0.51	2005	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)	NA	60	0.7	0.2	0.7	2005	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
(TTHMs) Total Trihalomethanes (ppb)	NA	80	2.2	1.0	2.2	2005	No	By-product of drinking water disinfectant
INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS								
Arsenic (ppb)	0	50	18	12	18	2002	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff
								from glass and electronics production wastes
Chromium (ppb)	100	100	4	ND	4	2004	No	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; Erosion of
								natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	1.05	0.129	1.05	2002	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes
,								strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate [measured as Nitrogen]	10	10	0.28	ND	0.28	2005	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks,
(ppm)								sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
MICROBIOLOGICAL CONTAMINANTS								
Total Coliform	0	1	2	ND		2005	No	Naturally present in the environment
(positive samples/month)								
RADIOACTIVE CONTAMINANTS								
Alpha emitters (pCi/L)	0	15	2.58	1.07	2.58	2004	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium	0	5	0.21	ND	0.21	2004	No	Erosion of natural deposits
(combined 226/228) (pCi/L)								
Uranium (ug/L)	0	30	9	6	9	2004	No	Erosion of natural deposits
			Your	Sample	# of	Samples	Exceeds	
INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS	<u>MCLG</u>	<u>AL</u>	<u>Water</u>	<u>Date</u>	Exce	eding AL	<u>AL</u>	Typical Source
Copper action level at consumer taps (ppm)								
	1.3	1.3	0.08	2005		0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

Units Description:

ug/L — number of micrograms of substance in one liter of water

ppm — parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L)

ppb — parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (ug/L)

pCi/L — picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)

positive samples/month — number of samples taken monthly

found to be positive.

NA — not applicable

ND — not detected

NR — monitoring not required, but recommended

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR ARSENIC

Some people who drink water containing arsenic in excess of the MCL (Maximum Contaminant Level) over many years could experience skin damage or problems with their circulatory system, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

Is My Water Safe?

Last year, the Village of Los Lunas conducted tests for over 80 contaminants. We only detected 10 of those contam-

inants, and found only one at a level higher than the EPA allows. As we told you at the time, our water temporarily exceeded drinking water standards.



As stated in the notice that went out to Village of Los Lunas customers in January it was found during the investigation that there had been a water break at the

site where the sample was taken which may have caused the presence of coliform bacteria. (for more information see the section labeled Violations at the bottom of this column.)

This report is a snapshot of last year's water quality. Included are details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. We are committed to providing you with information because informed customers are our best allies.

CONTAMINANTS IN MY DRINKING WATER? WHY ARE THERE

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800 426-4791).

Sources of drinking water (both tap and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occuring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria,

IMPORTANT DRINKING WATER DEFINITIONS

MCLG: Maximum Contaminant Level Goal: The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

MCL: Maximum Contaminant Level: The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

TT: Treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

AL: Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

Variances and Exemptions: State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions.

MRDLG: Maximum residual disinfection level goal. The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfegtants to control microbial contaminants.

MRDL: Maximum residual disinfectant level. The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

MNR: Monitored Not Regulated.

MPL: State Assigned Maximum Permissible Level

may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife. Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, can be naturally occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial, or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming.

Pesticides and herbicides can come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems.

Organic Chemical Contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems. Radioactive contaminants can be naturally occurring or the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish contaminant limits in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Violations and Exceedances

Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially-harmful, bacteria may be present. Coliforms were found in more samples than allowed and this was a warning of potential problems.

Five routine samples and three repeat samples were taken the week of December 5th with two positive samples. Five more samples were taken the week of December 12th and all samples came back negative. Upon investigation it was found that there had been a water break on the property near where the samples were taken and this may have caused the presence of coliform bacteria. The five samples 3 taken the following week came back negative.

WATER SOURCE ASSESSMENT AND ITS AVAILABILITY

The Village of Los Lunas in conjunction with the New Mexico Environment Department Drinking Water Bureau has available a Source Water Assessment Protection Program report at the Los Lunas Village Administration Building, 660 Main Street NW, for anyone wishing to review it.

The Source Water assessment reveals that the utility is well maintained and operated and the sources of drinking water are generally protected from potential sources of contamination based on well construction, hydrogeologic settings and system operations and maintenance.

The susceptibility rank of the entire water system is MODERATE.

Do I NEED TO TAKE SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS?

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Water Drinking Hotline (800-426-4791).



The Village of Los Lunas water tank on the west side of the community adjacent to Interstate 25.

The Los Lunas Water Department is a member of:

The American Water Works Association New Mexico Water & Wastewater Association New Mexico Environmental Quality Association

WHERE DOES MY WATER COME FROM?

The Village of Los Lunas is supplied by ground water pumped from the Santa Fe Group aquifer in the Albuquerque Basin by four wells located within the Village of Los Lunas.

The Village of Los Lunas Water
Conservation and Water Emergency
Ordinance #331 was completed in
December 2005 and became
effective January 23, 2006.

RESULTS OF RADON MONITORING

Radon is a radioactive gas that you can't see, taste, or smell which is found throughout the United States.

Radon can move up through the ground and into a home through cracks and holes in the foundation. Radon can build up to high levels in all types of homes. Radon can also get into indoor air when released from tap water from showering, washing dishes or other household activities.

Compared to radon entering the home through soil, radon entering the home through tap water will in most cases be a small source of radon in indoor air.

Radon is a known human carcinogen. Breathing air containing radon can lead to lung cancer. Drinking water containing radon may also cause increased risk of stomach

cancer. If you are concerned about radon in your home, test the air in your home. Testing is inexpensive and easy.

Fix the problem if the level of radon in your air is four picocuries per liter of air (pCi/L) or higher.

There are simple ways to fix a radon problem that aren't too costly. For more information, call Michael Taylor at the New Mexico Indoor Radon Outreach Program at 505 827-1093 or call the United States Environmental Protection Agency at the Radon Hotline, 800-SOS-RADON.

The New Mexico Indoor Radon Outreach Program provides public education about the health risk of radon gas and disseminates information on methods of mitigating radon problems.